

THE
SNUFF BOX;
OR,
SECOND PART OF
KILLING CONSIDERED :
WITH A FURTHER REVIEW OF
AMERICAN WISDOM, BIBLES,
AND PIETY,
INCLUDING
SEVERAL PROFANE OBSERVATIONS.

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BY WALTER COX.
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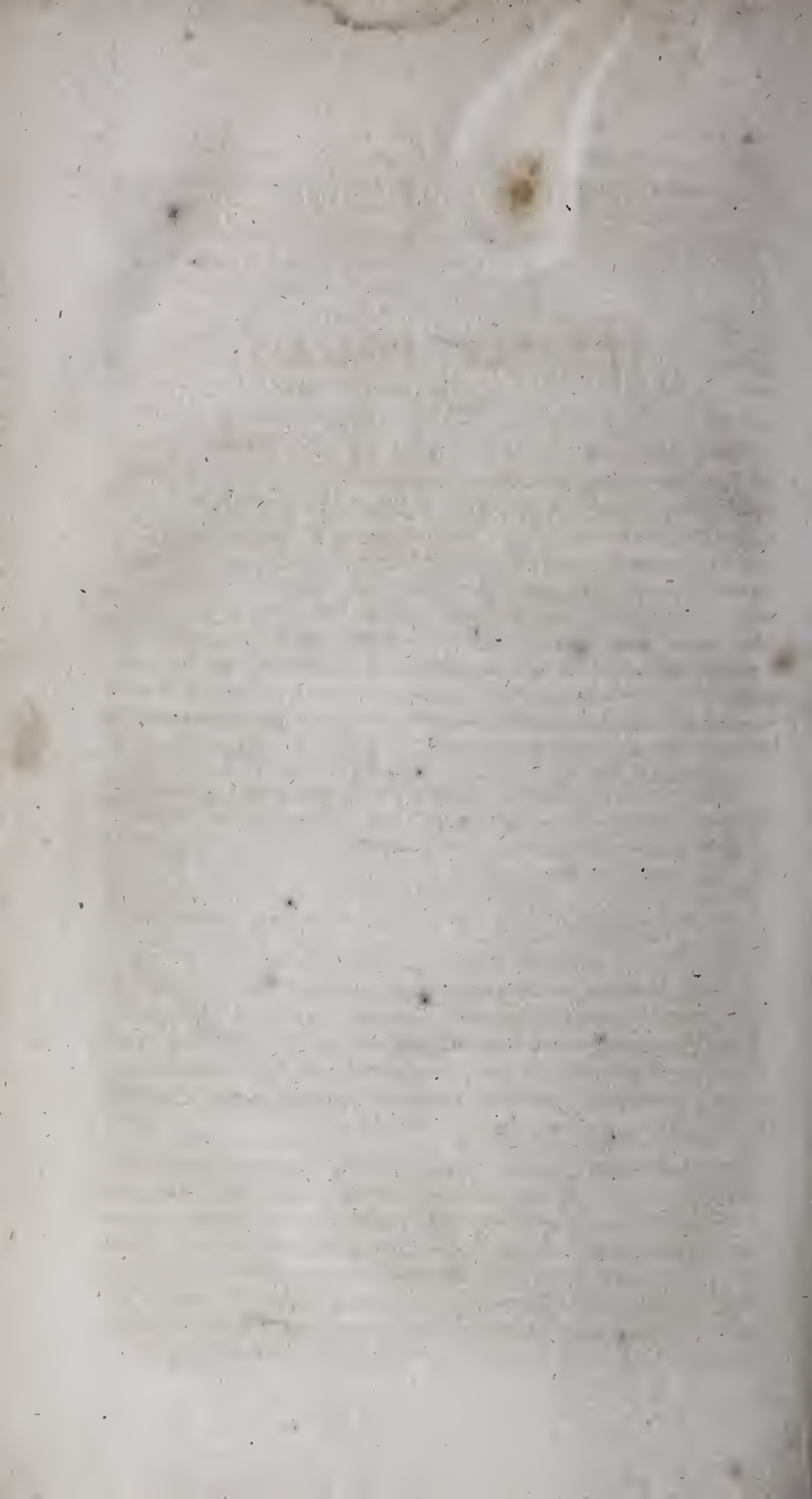
Hail Bibled Columbia! revise, reform the age,
Cleanse dame Justice from the pagan page,
Lend new form and costume to the blinded maid,
And for the strong snuff storm change the classic shade ;
Then sneezing set the quivering balance free,
While the nose rises to the wise decree ;
Release the gold dishes from their pendant chains,
And rogues with butchers from all legal pains.

Lundy Foot, the Irish Tobacco Bard.

—
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THE SNUFF BOX. &C.



THE slaughter of Counsellor Stoughton on the 21st of December last, has given rise to many discussions on the materials and morals composing this republic. It has brought before the philosopher, documents or traits of the human character, that makes him doubt whether a democratic form of government ought not to be laid aside, as it made and continues to make pretensions so plausible in its own favour, that a distant observer imagines it the perfection of human wisdom; but, on a more intimate view on the spot, where the theories of Paine, the hungry parables of Franklin, with the cation and coldness of Washington, are in daily practice, the illusion which remote political economists in their closets are enveloped in, disperses and leaves nothing but sterile prospects and current incidents that disgust and frighten.

In a countryman, where every man is an enemy, and every press an adversary of man, and his exertions to release himself from civil and political bondage, such a demonstration of moral depravity is fitter to be ruled than allowed to govern.

He that does not rejoice in the freedom of others, must eventually be a slave.

Perhaps there is not in christendom, a more inveterate use made of the press, than in the United States; to decry the character of great public men, and to oppose the claims other people set up to unrestricted access to the ocean and national rank: it is this disposition that accounts for hearing Lord Cochrane described daily in the American papers, as a buccaneer, a pirate, a robber, and even a coward.

It is this feeling that made every lady in New-York weep, and every gentleman an advocate for poor Mr. Goodwin, when his safety was thought to be in jeopardy for the slaughter of Counsellor Stoughton, and interested the entire community for the grandeur of the Baltimore pirates and navies, commissioned by public opinion, to make money at the expense of the public, and private property of the Spanish patriots, who would set up rival nations, and a rival state of trade and agriculture in the very neighbourhood of the apostolic republic of ship builders and bible venders.

Deprived of the sympathy of the good republican people of New-York, for his professional interruption of the Baltimore pirates as counselor for the king of Spain, whose property as well as that of his discontented subjects, suffered by the same rapacity, Mr. Stoughton was not forgiven even at his public death, agonizing on the public footway with the Jew's knife to its gripe, deep in his body.

We read of the great guardian of public right, the trial by jury : it has been energetically puffed off by lawyers and politicians, but from what we have seen of it at home and abroad, its lustre fades in our own eye, observing as we did, juries *packed* in Ireland, and *boxed* in the new world : therefore, it appears to us, that juries, so liable to be used to every purpose of wrong, should be erased from judicial arrangement, and a safer expedient adopted to replace institutions so notoriously abused.

There is a mechanical way of setting American juries to work, very liable to interrupt the course of justice : they, by sitting on the same floor, and *cheek by Jowl*, with constables, marshals, setters, lawyers, and such other retainers as justice uses in sweeping and dirtying the temple, are exposed to taking *snuff*, and the circulation of snuff boxes.

There is no great harm in handing good snuff to a dozing jurymen, who may be straying from the evidence before him, into a dream prematurely coming on in consequence of a little gin sling, or too much brandy toddy ; but, as a certain butcher knows, the box that bears the snuff may have a spare vault on one side, that would hold a thousand dollar bill as easily as a one dollar one ; for, I believe, it was decided by that great banker, Jacob Barker, that a one dollar note will require as much room as a thousand dollar one, and that a counterfeit, is as valuable as a true one never paid.

In English courts of law, the jury box is raised so high, that it is impossible to circulate medium or snuff with any jury man : he must, while he is in position, live on his own snuff ; he cannot even get change, nor exchange to the value of a cent, a precaution that interdicts all kinds of traffic between the friends of the prisoner, or the friends of the dead, of borrowing or lending with the jury box.

According to the laws of England, besides cutting off any communication of interests, or possible transit of goods, wares and merchandises from the friends of the dead, by poisoning the jury box, above the reach of man and the calculation of envy, the butcher, by trade, is not allowed to be a juror in cases similar to Mr. Goodwin's, on whose dagger Mr. Stoughton stumbled, by which accident he received such a severe injury, that he died before the young gentleman Goodwin, could draw the fatal instrument from the heart it was rummaging ; or, as Doctor Mott, on his testimony, shrewdly and mathematically observed, agreeably to the law of physics,

the weight of the handle drew it gently from the perforation in the ventricle, and thus relieving the organ of life from the steel wedge that impeded its motion, the heart resumed its joggling property in the human machine, preserving its disposition to go on, though in a retrograding ratio, until a spasm of hiccough threw off the lingering stream that kept up an unnecessary and protracted palpitation.

A butcher, begging pardon of a box butcher in question, is not considered qualified from the nature of his profession, to judge such affairs as this one of the counsellor, who rolled himself on the Jew knife; the humanity of the law supposes, that a man accustomed by his daily avocations to shed blood, is liable from custom to have those humane feelings that revolt at murder, rendered callous, if not worn away by an intimacy with even the killing of brutes; though a butcher on a jury may be influenced by *snuff*, or made tractable enough by whiskey, to find an innocent man guilty of murder without any repugnance at the cruelty of shedding the blood of his fellow creature, yet alive to his interest, when it is properly consulted, he may be prevailed upon to think it was no great harm for a man, who can command a great disposable sum of money to have killed another, who, if alive, would not give a stiver to a Dutch butcher, nor to any butcher, without his pound of flesh in exchange.

Besides, in the wisdom of the English law, that hang juries high out of the way of snuff boxes and bank bills, the precaution prevents juries so suspended, of hearing any thing of their own domestic affairs, of foreign correspondence, family affliction, or family enjoyment, during the discussion of any murderous affair before them. If any of them is to be presented with a gold snuff box, it must be done outside of the court, and if done any where, the *wife* of the juror in the air, cannot get to her spouse to acquaint him by handing him a letter of his good fortune to be, of the double freighted snuff box, that is to appear before him in the course of the trial, that his wisdom, his oath and country, charges him to see done impartially.

In old times, before that art of printing had opened the scriptures to be interpreted by every whimsical blockhead who wishes to render religion subservient to love, to mercantile speculation, personal conceit and fanatical sorcery, men who could read, being very few, it was as uncommon then to see a man on a jury who could read, as it is now a-days to see a man, like our gold box butcher, who cannot write his name.

The absence of education that prevailed before book printing, the parent of hymn singing, inspiration, prophecy, self-forgiveness, missionary women, and rampant rambles, who march to the sounds of nose music, was a sufficient apology for not producing that which could not be had; but now that butchers can read, it is not necessary that an illiterate butcher

should be entrusted with the dignity of the law, the administration of justice, and the opportunity of dealing in valuable articles in jurisprudence or jewellery, that he does not understand.

Republicanism suffers much in the estimation of rational politicians, when we see so many facilities for letting loose private navies to check the erection of any free state on the continent of America; and to enable unread butchers to play with law and snuff boxes, and defeat the arduous and laborious impartiality of a learned magistrate, letting loose a knife that after immersing a family in tears for one member, who are made to tremble lest the survivors should be smote by the same instrument, for daring to institute any investigation into the cause of a son's death, who it now appears, according to Doctor Mott's testimony, must have carelessly fallen on the apex of the Jew's poignard, as it was exposed, like Doctor Franklin's lightning rod, to catch passing mischief, and lay it on the ground.

Doctor Mott's anatomical assurance, that the dagger in question could not have penetrated with such velocity and effect, and such a distance from the noon day, by the aid of any human hand, completely invalidates the historian of the life and adventures of Guy, Earl of Warwick, who asserts, in page 671, vol. 19, that Guy, being hard run at by two Lancashire witches, took a refuge in a kitchen, where the cook was about putting a heavy haunch of venison to the fire: the gallant Earl being hunted unawares, not having his trusty sword in his pocket, took the spit into his hands, and by a *coup de main*, transfixes the two hags as easily as if they were two hedge sparrows, or as readily as an Irish iron-pike would pass through a Yankey river boiling hot with yellow fever. It would be well for Guy, if brought to trial, for this wholesale murder, that anatomy were as well understood in Warwickshire as now in New-York; for even the devil and Doctor Faustus, the two greatest practitioners of the day, would not be able to refute any straight surgeon, if they attempted to say a strong man could drive a polished, pointed piece of steel through the strong web of a man's belly, thence through the iron cartilage that fringes the rib, and continuing its alleged course to a muscular heart, would appear rank nonsense, though there were not a butcher, or a *snuff box*, or a Franklin bank in existence.

On the trial of Goodwin for the mitigated crime of manslaughter, as the grand jury considered the way of Mr. Stoughton's death, Doctor Mott, who was examined, as he had inspected the wounds and the road the poignard travelled, considered that the strength of an ordinary man (an unhandsome man, or of ordinary size) in *these days*, could not have inflicted the wound described.

This testimony goes to prove another disputed point, hitherto confined to scripture wiseacres, who, though they cannot read or spell ten words of

any regular language, undertake to unravel and explain every verse and line in holy writ. These enlightened and shrewd conjurors, like Doctor Mott, suppose that man, or ordinary man, ugly or middle sized, whatever it means, in *these days*, is nothing in size or construction of body to what he was in former times, a dwindled little creature—who has been degenerating in his physical proportions since the days of Goliath, and if some change of regimen or order of Providence is not put into operation a man in four thousand years will not be as big as a buck musquetoe.

It is pleasing to see what we are too apt to term vulgar notions, established as sound truths by such great testimony as Doctor Mott, whose allusion to former men, as given in evidence, proves that an ordinary man of *these days*, is inferior in strength and capacity to the ordinary men of former days, big ugly dogs, perhaps as tall as the spire of the Brick Church, and as round in the body as Fort Clinton.

The learned American anatomist, must have informed himself on the sizes man assumed in the several great epochs in profane and sacred history from actual experiments, which furnished him from the study of his profession, and inspection of the detail of animal economy, the information that there is an evident disposition from the very construction of some vessels and the disappearance of others, that man is likely to go on decreasing in quality and quantity, until he becomes so small as not to be visible even to his wife and children; it will come to pass that he will not be known to his family but by his voice, nor that he is at dinner, only by the tinkling of his plate, or the diminution of the food in front of him.

A doctor, like any other man in business, we mean in occult sciences, the witchery of herbs, moon beams, snail mucus, card cutting, and other branches of the healing art, to be found in the earlier pharmacopœias, is liable to be estimated according to the intelligence of the society he is most conspicuous to. This doctor is the greatest doctor in New-York, not excepting Doctor Mitchell, no mean rank, as the people of this great city very modestly allow, they, themselves, are the best informed and most advanced in civilization of any nation in the whole world.

Yet there are tooth drawers in this city, who would not, in England, be allowed to extract a crooked nail from a good bellows, notwithstanding they are in the highest *grade*, as American English has it, and qualified to sit in Congress, if the august assembly were composed of doctors, instead of being the adversaries of every people struggling to break their chains and to dismiss their oppressors.

Yes, generous men, while Europe is agitated with a tremulous sensation, the precursor of a mighty change that must place man something higher in the scale of humanity, your presses and opinions defame the incensed slave and eulogise his master.

You depute accredited spies to examine the country, and ascertain the resources of the malcontents of Chili and Paraguay, and if you have formed any opinion on the fate or condition of the credulous men, who mistaking your cold character, admitted you to their confidence, that opinion was only explained to the Spanish cabinet.

While compassing the interest of Ferdinand, in ascertaining the state of his rebel subjects, you are extending black slavery to every new state added to your own gloomy confederation.

You have closed their dark and sandy forests in the Illinois, against the Irish, who contributed to establish the revolution, but to punish this perfidy, the thin wretches who had a preference, are constant victims to incessant agues, to periodical fevers, to the deleterious miasma, floating eternally over the muddy country in the vicinity of the Mississippi and Ohio; annually overflowing the vast territory, to the height of ninety or a hundred feet; retreats again, and leaves an empty channel and a putrid soil, teeming with death and disease. Political science, only understood as the guide to place hunting; judicial inquiries embarrassed by snuff boxes; butchers, who cannot read, taking precedence on solemn occasions of gentlemen; slavery patronised; the victims of bad governments reprobated; the Spanish patriots insulted in return for their generous confidence, and embarrassed in their efforts by clandestine navies publicly built in Baltimore, by Jews, Gentiles, and preaching speculators, who disperse bibles, and oppress the rising nations of South America; truths so manifest to every man who visits the country, that a man will not be surprised when he hears of a society so vulgarly and corruptly constituted, has been dispersed or corrected by erecting a monarchy in its place.

Ignorance must prevail in a country where the bible is consulted to the exclusion of every other source of attainment and information. The innocent and playful legends and tales, that in other days enticed the child to read the seven wise masters, the Arabian Nights, the story of Jack the Giant Killer, and such entertaining infant literature, that engaged the minds of the young Newtons, Lockes and Currans of Europe, are dismissed from the American nursery school, as casual corruptions, inculcating false ideas and idle romancing, and hymn books, religious tracts, holy ravings put into every infant hand; hence the smile is banished from the human face, cheerfulness from conversation, and conversation itself, deemed an idle waste of words, when the subject matter deviates from such topics as grace, illumination, prophecy, or missionary industry.

Every trade and profession infected with this fanaticism and folly, accounts for the ready use of scripture learning, and pious affectation alluded to on every occasion in the senates as in the more vulgar jury box.

When one hear doctors said to be eminent in the knackery of profession, impressed with the childish notion, that the strength or stature of man has been on the decline, that a man of *these days*, has not physical force to perform a certain casualty in murder or phlebothomy, equal to men in other days, almost justify us in believing such persons had been confined during the term of childhood, to one of those infant mad houses, where the opening mind has been chained to prophecies, hymn books, pious tracts, and methodistical revelations, negro sermons, and such ravings as old women frightened at the show box of some hell painter, flog into the tender memory of their little pupils.

Society kept back, or in a state of obeisance by such artificial contrivances, without any force or compulsion, as in Ireland, where education was punished as felony, and teachers treated as robbers, cannot survive, making, as it does in America, a volunteer choice, that designedly puts back improvement, and rejects information as the adversary of the pulpit, tends to reconcile a nation to the loss of its political rank, and accounts for the asperity and contempt freedom is treated with in senates, and justice feels, where snuff boxes and butchers are deaf to judges, and insensible to the voice of religion and humanity.

The symptoms of dissolution are in full activity ; freedom is treated as a ridiculous phantom ; money and piety supersede and insult it ; the Baltimore pirates are let loose on Spanish property ; the press on Spanish pretensions to independence, and bible fanatics subsidized by those who would not afford a lodging or a drink of water to the traveller, to prophecy the reign of American saints in Mexico, and the opening of the Spanish temples to the breeding Yankey ladies, who travel from Boston to the Sandwich islands, to preach the gospel from the arms of their mates in the Lord.

Fanaticism, with the bible in hand, and cadaverous aspect, capering before the hearse of the republic, the assassin sporting his dagger, with doctors, butchers and snuff boxes bringing up the rear, one mocking history and the other laughing at justice, would form a brief subject for a carver to fix on the tomb of an extinct nation, to transmit to posterity in hieroglyphics, when language was lost, the causes that led to the annihilation of a republic in its very infancy.

During the canvassing seasons preparatory to elections, the newspapers let out several tales that justify our remarks on the moral character of this people. The intention of exposing the guilt of public men, has nothing to do with any idea of repugnance at the meanness or enormity of the offence ; where no principle exists, there is no indignation ; the public who are appealed to, as corrupt as the accuser, only make use of the complaint as an expedient to displace a man in office, to put another in, who the parties consider the most likely to share with them the spoils and sala-

ries annexed to the several employments sought. Mr. Mordecai Noah, editor of the National Advocate, in his paper of the 29th of March last, relates a story of a Mr. Thompson, of Long-Island, lately a representative in the state assembly: he states that Thompson, at the conclusion of the session at Albany, being appointed, as the custom is, to make a collection from the members, to pay the door keepers for extra services, received 40 or 50 dollars, and instead of handing it to the poor persons the money was intended for, put it into his own pocket, and applied it to his own use.

Mr. Noah, being a very learned editor, and a man of veracity, must be supposed correct in this demi official testimony of the purity of American representation, which we ought to take as an apology for the dutch butcher and the snuff box, and for the re-issuing of the Stoughtonian dagger.

Mordecai, in another of his well couched paragraphs, accounts for the vice president's refusal to abide for the adjustment of his claims on the treasury, by leaving it to the investigation and discretion of two or three of the judges, as arbitrators between Mr. Tompkins and the public. Mr. Tompkins, Mr. Mordecai says rejected the proposal with scorn, as he could not depend on the integrity of the same judges.

It is not long since, another editor accused a certain governor of selling pardons of convicted felons by auction. About two years since, a member of congress made a formal complaint to the house against a person whose accounts were to be reported on by the member, as one of a committee appointed by the house for the purpose. He stated, that this personage had tendered five hundred dollars as a bribe. The house shocked at such an attack on its purity, had the offender taken into custody, and voted this Andrew Marvell, of Washington, unanimous approval of such a staunch instance of integrity.

What an idea must an American gentleman have of American purity, who could believe a member of the legislature would sell his constituents for such a paltry sum as an hundred pounds sterling? Surely he would say to himself, if representatives are so corrupt or necessitous, as his estimation intimated, the British treasury could easily subsidize a majority to protect English trade, and give a preference to an English government.

In a country debauched in its infancy by Franklin's money-gathering parables, that have taught circuit judges it is sinful to visit taverns, and how to avoid sin by carrying bread and cheese in their pockets, it does not astonish us to hear of a man attempting to buy a member of congress with five hundred dollars, and that our friend the butcher, would rather have a well furnished snuff box, than a gentleman's life.

Perhaps the English cabinet has a better opinion of congress, than the American gentleman with five hundred dollars, or they would have tried to buy up any disposable virtue ready for market, if buyers were to be had.—There is nothing impracticable in a community, so well prepared by the money lessons of Benjamin. Foreign senators can be made as submissive under the

weight of guineas, as home ones. A Nabob of India, was known in Chatham's time, to have three members of the house of commons in pay. The cabinet is never without having nine tenths of the same body in its service: it is not long since it bought the entire of the Irish parliament; a bargain comparatively more difficult to effect than the one we allude to.

"Every man has his price," was a saying of Walpole's. Franklin's pupils are not above the reach of purchase: the butcher, within the opportunity, availed himself of the snuff as it was going the rounds, and the dagger let loose again, passed old Stoughton's door in undiminished authority.

We would not have referred to senates to establish the prevailing inclination of a people, only we considered it not candid to form opinions of moment from solitary instances, such as the conscientious butcher and the snuff box; nor would we venture to assert from the one sticking of Stoughton, that a disposition to murder prevails more in the United States, than in any country of Christian Europe: yet without fear of contradiction, we say, that actually more murders are perpetrated in the United States, than any country we know of, murders without motive, and almost in every case made public, not necessary as matters of precaution, nor under the influence of obtaining considerable value in money as the reward of the crime.

In other nations, most of the murders we hear of, are acts of retaliation for political oppression; some minion of power, some agent of despotism, some cruel master, or brutal landlord, form almost the victims under the assassin's knife or pistol: there is a morality in European murder, but American murders, destitute of pretence, are below the consideration of mercy or apology; and such the coldness of the American character, a sensation is scarcely excited at hearing of the most aggravated act of homicide.

Therefore the silence observed on the snuff box, and the general attachment manifested by ladies and gentlemen, by butchers and doctors for Mr. Goodwin is accounted for.

Man born in America, has with him from infancy to the grave, his acquittal for the peevish and cold disposition that rule his temper under a variable and rotten atmosphere. His lungs impeded in growth and action by narrow shoulders and pigeon breast, diminishes the animal spirits, restricts cheerfulness, and abridges human existence. Besides so disposed by a disordered contraction, must be in a state of irksomeness, reaching to the mind itself, one complaint on the heels of another; thus we perceive man less intelligent, communicative, honest, generous or hospitable than under more genial skies and steady atmospheres. Yet we are not justified in attributing all the faults the animal labours under to his nature, when it is obvious the confirmed depravity and obstinate vanity, are the consequences of a pestiferous climate.

A man would be as justly blamed for limping, who has a wooden leg, as to criminate a Yankey for the disorders and deformities arising from an infected air, a violent sun, and rigorous snows alternately annoying the tender machine man; embarrassing his growth, and when that growth is imperfectly finished, leaving the little remnant of life under a constant state of medical experiments to protract a trembling existence.

If Doctor Mott had said, or implied, that an ordinary man of *these* states, instead of *these* days, does not possess strength enough to inflict such a wound as Mr. Stoughton gave himself when unarmed, and unawares he stumbled on Goodwin's naked stiletto, it would be more agreeable to facts, history and medical observation: it is visible from the ruins of man himself, where skeletons have been found, recumbent or upright, as the living bodies were employed in the several occupations in the ancient cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum, covered up now near two thousand years, that the skeletons lately taken from them, under the deep covering of twenty-five feet, were not larger than the skeletons of this day. The skeletons of Roman soldiers found in the very guard houses they perished in; the same of offenders found in the prisons, and even of the men of rank with their families, found sitting, as at dinner, at the very tables they were placed two thousand years since, when the sudden eruption of Vesuvius overwhelmed their city and interrupted their banquet, prove incontestibly, that the allusion made during the dagger investigation, was foolish.

If the learned anatomist had told the butcher who held the snuff box the fact, that man in this country declines into a tall shadow, or that the human species left to American reproduction, unmixed and unvisited from Europe, apparent in the western countries, and all of the southern states, where children do not live, the jury would have truth to guide them, and their own knowledge would sustain the doctor's explanation, from the collateral testimony of existing facts.

During the trial of Goodwin, for the incautious way he allowed the dagger to ramble through Stoughton's ribs, intestine, heart and breast bone, the introduction of the snuff box would produce a more dubious character, provided the butcher were absent or drunk enough not to be able to discover the circulating box, on its eccentric tour; for had any of the jury considered the apparent likeness to guilt, the circumstance proved, of an angry man, armed out of his usual habits, with a hidden weapon, giving a first offence, and delaying an unarmed passenger by attacking him with provoking language, any jury (snuff boxes out of the question) nay a grand jury, with three Jew friends, or with twenty of the house of Judah as members, must presume murder was intended, and perpetrated.

This coldness of disposition, and indifference for the shedding of blood, distaste for the fine arts, submission to the influence of proper snuff boxes, implacable resentment against the pretensions of every other people to freedom, and readiness to sell their own, as evinced in a thousand instances during the late war; must arise from some peculiarity in a climate, so

evidently adverse to the growth, formation, and morals of white men born under its dominion. Washington, himself, did not escape the power of the adverse elements of the country. He was as cold as a dog's nose, as angry at the production of the pencil or chisel, as a quaker would at being introduced to a David or a Canova. Washington so regretted the mischief he done to England, that he would not after the first explosion of the French revolution, allow a French or Irish gentleman to be admitted to his levees.

Viewing the two characters as an English statesman would, he considered both nations as enemies. Volney, who visited this country, to ascertain some theories connected with the philosophy of elements and phenomena of climates, solicited an interview with the old land surveyor, and was most rudely repulsed by a vulgar and sarcastic message from the proud president. Archibald Hamilton Rowan, a fugitive of Ireland, inspired by the same mistaken ideas of Washington, imagining that the founder of a new nation raised to freedom, would not refuse a reception which a man of high rank and education, and a victim to the same power, that once set a price on Washington's own head, had a right to expect from a quarter; that public opinion had supposed was the asylum of decorum and liberty; but Washington, indignant at the audacity of an Irish rebel, ordered Mr. Rowan from the porch of his dwelling, and at every subsequent opportunity, never failed to express his marked dislike at the introduction of Irishmen into the United States.

The celebrated Italian sculptor, Carracchi, inspired with the fanaticism prevailing over young and ardent minds, at the period that announced the settlement of the new republic, paid a visit to the young United States during the administration of Washington, and had the honour of an interview with the president.

Carracchi, delighted at seeing what he was taught to believe a living similarity of mind and soul, to the heroes of his own nation, of Roman antiquity, requested permission to take a model of Washington's face: the hero flattered at the opportunity of having his likeness transmitted to posterity by the first chisel of the age, sat for the artist, who, having accomplished so much, returned to his residence in Brussels, where marble suitable to his art could be had. He took with him a model also of Hamilton's face, who was shortly after killed by Aaron Burr.

Having completed the two busts, except some finishing touches, he intended to give them on the spot, where the two originals resided, he landed in America with his works, and in a short time the pieces were presented to the respective gentlemen. Mr. Hamilton, on engaging for his own bust, made Carracchi understand, he was to be paid for both the same sum, each.

Hamilton, who had the taste of an educated man, though his notions of

freedom and prejudices, were as limited and cold as Washington's; remunerated Carracchi with seven hundred and fifty dollars.

The artist some time after wanting money, as his splendid talents were disregarded by slave holders and tobacco men, addressed a polite note to the president, requesting one hundred dollars. Washington answered the application on the moment by returning the bust to Carracchi in the identical case in which it had been transmitted!!! Carracchi very quickly retired from any opportunity of receiving any further testimonies of Vandal barbarism, and with his stone cold Washington, arrived again in the city of Brussels, where he sold the valuable article to the academy there.

The members did not purchase it out of any veneration for the original, though at the time people remote from Washington's character, which they only saw through the medium of foolish newspapers, were apt to consider the man, as he appeared at a distance: however, as it afforded oppressed people opportunities to make invidious comparisons, it was fair to say Washington was an angel, though he had few of the attributes, either in soul, information or costume, neither ideas or wings.

The academy purchased the work merely on the merit of the artist, the head of a hog from the same chisel would be inestimable.

Several applications have been made since the death of Washington by American ministers to buy the bust from the academy, and large sums offered, but in vain, as the society duly informed on the exquisite talents of Carracchi, estimating the work as amateurs only, and indignant at the treatment Carracchi received in America, where he was refused twenty pounds for his work, the academy rejected with scorn five thousand dollars in exchange for it.

Carracchi, disappointed in his expectation of seeing the old arts rising on the summits and decorating the fanes of the new capitol, turned his attention to revolutionary France, became an active citizen during a considerable period, and implicated by Bonaparte in the conspiracy of the infernal machine, contrived for the destruction of the first consul, was brought to the guillotine with several of his companions.

Apologists for any allowed deficiency in American attainments, say America is yet a young nation, this logic is folly, it being a transplanted nation; it can avail itself of every advantage peculiar to parent countries. It would be as rational to account for any moral and other deficiencies; the inmates of a new house by chance might exhibit, by saying they were a new people.

As we said frequently, the climate must be to blame: no other people in the civilized world, such enemies to freedom, to social intercourse, to the fine arts, to music, to painting, to sculpture; yet their courts of criminal law, their newspapers, shew there are not more indefatigable mail rob-

bers and bank note forgers in any country, or in any other two countries of the globe. The philosopher in Europe, who in the frenzy of philanthropy liberty and false deduction sets down the American character as the highest in society, from a calculation that republican manners are less corrupt, and better applied to the great purposes of social order, than other conditions of civil or political institutions, familiar to him from a personal intimacy; but let him pay a visit to these United States, and take a view of the detail of society, his astonishment will not be much excited, after reading Washington on the scene of his actions and birth, to discover that his republican followers, are to a man, as cold as the original; as hostile to the freedom of every other people, full of resentment at the French nation that emancipated them, and at the Irish, who formed principle, found their best soldiers, the schoolmasters who first introduced classic taste and mathematical science amongst them.

He will be equally informed on the causes of the sordid affections and trickery inclination of a people who have learned to starve themselves and cheat others; that these vices have become national attributes from the pawn broking parables of Franklin, whose ideas of happiness, like that of Moses, included nothing higher than possession of the land and money of this world.

Continuing his scrutiny on the superiority of republican refinement, and examining the white natives of Georgia, Tennessee, Kentucky, &c. he will find them besides physically deformed and very limited by construction in their days, to be the most savage in morals. Without making impertinent enquiries, he will perceive drunkenness to excess: he will see their frolics nothing but crimes; the arts subservient to revenge and battle; the blacksmith filing the teeth of adverse champions, who are to decide a quarrel or determine a wager, by eating each other, until nature, submitting to the strongest jaws, declares who is vanquished.

If he has not an opportunity of seeing a *gouging duel*, he cannot be disappointed whenever he pleases to visit a grog store; to see pupils in this science, acquiring the art of extracting the eyes of their companions, by practising on the eyes of calves and dogs, until by dint of application in this anatomical science, they arrive at such dexterity, that when honour brings a young man into a personal contest, he is so previously well trained, he will be able to have a comrade's eyes in the barrel of his rifle or in his pocket, a minute or two before the blinded unfortunate misses the evicted organs of vision.

Grand juries are said to be invested with higher authority than any other tribunals in the country; they have power to investigate every public transaction; they, in their wisdom think, tends to embarrass the circulation of the laws; they can depose the governor of the state; they shape and mould great offences to be considered by courts of criminal law, privileges a stranger would suppose only capable of being exercised by men of the highest attainments. It was a grand jury that found out, that Mr. Stoughton rolled himself on the Jew knife, and ordered the Jew himself before a petit jury for the crime of manslaughter, an adjudication that pre-

duced the butcher and the snuff box, at the same time exhibiting the surprising penetration of twenty-three men who discovered, though examining only the witnesses for the prosecution, that Goodwin was not guilty of murder, a decision giving the lie to the coroner's jury, who, after hearing testimony on both sides, solemnly pronounced a verdict of wilful murder.

The coroner's jury, it is admitted, might be wrong, as they had not sufficient time to assist inquiry by snuff, or any judicial powder of similar composition.

Grand jurors out of their room individually, in their grog stores, or other stores, are not much wiser than other men: for instance, there is *such a one, what d'ye call him*, the other day, was nothing higher among the face of clay, than one of the turnkeys in the state prison; a reference of ours, though it proves that grand jurymen are not always a decenter, or more decent classification of men, it shews the purity and equality of our republican rules and regulations. As English jurisprudence and civil polity, are generally imitations of British wisdom, that answer pretty well when they are understood, and not mangled in the adoption by Yankey conceit.

This snuff box business, elicits the ignorance we allude to, as it is evident from accompanying facts, that the alteration from English practice, has not improved the grand jury institution.

Other acts of economy are adopted without reflection, merely because financial wisdom is thought to be more perfect in England than elsewhere.

For instance, some American chancellor of the exchequer, thought he was displaying vast profundity in fiscal ingenuity, when he suggested the enacting protecting duties for the encouragement of that important branch of domestic industry, the manufacture of Yankey rum, by imposing heavy restrictions, to curtail the introduction of the produce of the vineyards of Europe.

This law, a foolish imitation of England, is nothing less in its operation than an act to poison the people, by confining them to the use of the most detestable and deleterious stuff that ever passed through any still. The financier who suggested the English law, had some sound reasons for adulterating public health: he was advancing the promotion of agriculture by the consumption of grain, the only thing allowed to be converted into spirits. He was increasing the value of the law makers estates, a device very rational to legislators, who, to a man, are landlords.

The American wiseman, had nothing to direct him but the letter of the law he imitated and misunderstood. His plan included not a ray of any political light. Molasses, is not American growth, therefore the consumption of it has no influence towards any useful purpose in cultivation, or in individual aggrandizement. On the contrary, the partial exclusion of wines, so eminently entitled to the statesman's protection for the medical qualities in fever and other incidental bodily afflictions, should not be excluded from the poor man's dispensatory, in a country where they affect to consider the impaovement of man of higher importance than the improvement of revenue.